



STATE SENATOR
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A BALANCED BUDGET!

Thanks to a budget passed by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Mitch Daniels in 2005, **Indiana is in the black for the first time in more than a decade.**

Money-Saving Tips: Conserve Gasoline



Over the past several months, Hoosiers have seen gas prices rise substantially, putting a real strain on budgets.

I have compiled a list of gas saving tips that will help reduce the amount of gas you use.

If you need more information on other gasoline resources, visit the attorney general's website at www.indianaconsumer.com

Drive Sensibly: Speeding, rapid acceleration and braking can lower your gasoline mileage by 33 percent at highway speeds and by 5 percent around town.

Observe the Speed Limit: Each 5 mph you drive over 60 mph is like paying an additional 10 cents per gallon for gasoline.

Avoid Excessive Idling: Idling gets zero miles per hour and cars with larger engines generally waste more gas at idle.

Use Cruise Control: Cruise control on the highway helps you maintain a constant speed and will save you gasoline.

Use Overdrive Gears: Using overdrive gearing slows your car's engine speeds, which saves gasoline and reduces engine wear.

Check & Replace Air Filters: Replacing a clogged air filter can improve your car's gas mileage by as much as 10 percent.

Keep Tires Properly Inflated: Keeping your tires inflated to the proper pressures can improve your gas mileage by around 3 percent.

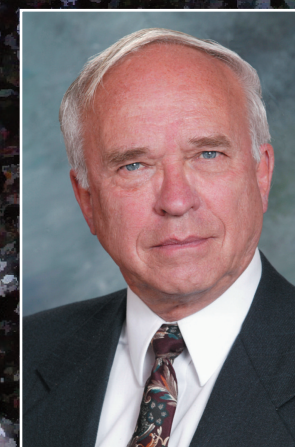
Use Recommended Grade of Motor Oil: Using the manufacturer's recommended grade of motor oil can improve your gas mileage by 1 to 2 percent.



INFO & NEWS

from the

Indiana Senate



STATE SENATOR
**RICHARD
BRAY**

Serving District 37 in Morgan, Putnam, Owen,
Clay, Johnson & Monroe Counties



(Clockwise from left) Sen. Bray, Sen. Brent Steele (R- Bedford) and Sen. Joe Zakas (R- Granger) discuss an issue in the Senate Chamber.

Did You Know...?

... that on June 30, 2006, the state officially overcame a \$600 million deficit and closed its books for the fiscal year with a balanced budget for the first time in a decade?

... that the money from the toll road lease has been accruing \$500,000 per day in interest

How to contact
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Job Creation Legislation Proves Successful

— More jobs for Hoosiers are on the way —

Although the last two legislative sessions have been filled with substantial changes to the way Indiana does business, a priority in the Senate has been job creation. Although government actions cannot create jobs overnight, Indiana is beginning to see results just one year after the major economic development laws of 2005 were implemented.

In 2005, the General Assembly sped up and streamlined the creation of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), created tax breaks for research and development, passed a shovel-ready site development plan and expanded existing tax credits. The result: 85,000 more Hoosiers are working than in January 2005 and unemployment is at a low 4.9 percent.

More jobs are on the way. Recent job announcements include:

- **Honda announcing a \$550 million plant that will employ 2,000 people in Greensburg (the plant will have capacity for 4,000 employees)**

Alternative Energy Fueling Our Economy: Indiana Leading the Nation in Biofuels

The General Assembly has passed several alternative fuel incentives in recent legislative sessions that have placed Indiana at the top of the biofuels industry.

Ethanol and biodiesel burn cleaner, reduce the state's dependence on foreign sources of energy and increase economic opportunities for our state.

Ethanol and biodiesel production have a very positive impact on Indiana farmers. Indiana is the fifth largest state for corn production and fourth largest in soybeans. These are the two key dynamics associated with ethanol/biodiesel production.

Currently, Indiana sends almost 50 percent of corn and soybean productions out of state with no values added, which is the least profitable form of sale for farmers.

- **American Commercial Lines agreeing to create 1,100 jobs in Jeffersonville**
- **Federal Express announcing a \$200 million expansion creating 800 new jobs in Indianapolis**
- **Rolls Royce committing to bring 600 aerospace jobs to Indianapolis**
- **Pfizer deciding to create 450 jobs in Terre Haute**
- **American General Financial Services expanding its corporate headquarters to create 150 new jobs in Evansville**
- **Arbonne International opening a 400-employee distribution center in Greenwood.**
- **Nestle selecting Anderson for a 300-job facility**
- **Sallie Mae announcing 700 new jobs in Muncie**

Many other announcements have occurred in the past 18 months, many more are expected in the future, and I am committed to continuing to create a job-friendly environment here in Indiana.

It is estimated that farmers contracting with ethanol or biodiesel plants will gain an incremental 15 cents to 20 cents per bushel.

Indiana has 15 ethanol plants announced or under construction, which will produce 840 million gallons of ethanol.

The new ethanol and biodiesel plants will put an estimated \$17.5 million into Hoosier farmers' pockets while investing more than \$1.27 billion in capital expenses.

Indiana also boasts dozens of new fueling stations. There are more than 50 biodiesel pumps and 40 E-85 pumps across the state.

With this amazing progress in such a short time, I am very encouraged that these proposals can take us even further.

I am very proud that Indiana is a national leader in alternative fuels.

MAJOR MOVES MEANS MAJOR MONEY

Southern Indiana to benefit from lease of Toll Road

On June 28, Indiana closed a lease with Statewide Mobility Partners, which will operate the Indiana Toll Road in exchange for **\$3.8 billion**. That money has been deposited and is currently earning interest at a rate of about **\$500,000 every day**. For an up-to-the-second look at how much interest has been accrued, visit www.in.gov/tos/MajorMoves.htm

All of this money will go toward improving infrastructure in the state of Indiana, and District 37 will see millions of dollars in road improvements in the coming years. In addition to the local projects planned by the Indiana Department of Transportation, the legislature also approved \$150 million in payments to local governments to be used as they see fit.



Here is a breakdown of what the counties in District 37 will receive over just two years:

- **Morgan — \$1,491,900**
- **Putnam — \$1,204,000**
- **Monroe — \$2,272,200**
- **Owen — \$855,400**
- **Clay — \$1,031,200**
- **Johnson — \$2,279,700**

As you can see, Major Moves will generate a significant amount of money for our area that will improve the quality of life. I look forward to seeing a lot more orange construction barrels on the streets I represent in the coming years.

Defending the Right to Bear Arms

New laws protect rights of law-abiding citizens

"The people shall have a right to bear arms, for the defense of themselves and the State." Article 1, Section 32 of the Indiana Constitution grants us the freedom to own firearms and store them in our homes.

I have always been a firm supporter of our Second Amendment rights, and there are two bills in the General Assembly that would protect law-abiding gun owners.

The "Stand Your Ground" law, House Enrolled Act 1028, aims to protect Hoosiers who are protecting themselves. The bill allows any person to use deadly force against an intruder to the person's home or vehicle. Current law says that the intruder must have intent to cause death or bodily harm, but I believe that when someone breaks into your private property, you do not have the time to determine their exact intent.

Stand Your Ground also clarifies Indiana's law which tradition held by case law that if you were in a place you had a right to be and you were not the aggressor, you did not have to re-

treat before you had a right to defend yourself to whatever extent necessary, such as deadly force. This provision is now in statute.

Senate Enrolled Act 54 attempts to simplify the handgun licensing process. Currently, everyone with a handgun license must have their permit updated and be fingerprinted every four years — even people who have had such a license all of their adult life.

"THE PEOPLE SHALL HAVE A RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS, FOR THE DEFENSE OF THEMSELVES AND THE STATE."

— Article 1, Section 32 of the Indiana Constitution

This bill would allow the Superintendent of the Indiana State Police to establish an electronic renewal service and keep one set of fin-



Sen. Bray listens to testimony during a committee hearing. He serves as **Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and as a member of the Ethics; Criminal, Civil and Public Policy; Environmental Affairs; and Appointments and Claims Committees.** In addition to these Senate committees, Sen. Bray serves as **Chairman of the Commission on Courts and as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute and the Sentencing Policy Study Committee.**

gerprints on file when this system is implemented. In order to keep the cost of this program low, it will rely on federal funding as opposed to taking more from the already strapped state budget. This bill would also allow citizens to apply for lifetime licenses.

The Indiana State Police issues about 80,000 gun permits per year, and these measures would reduce that number and make the process much more efficient. Safety is still a top priority and law enforcement officers would continue to revoke licenses as necessary.

These small, sensible changes will be a great improvement of the current system and make the licensing procedure much more efficient. There is no reason to punish those law-abiding citizens who are simply exercising their Second Amendment rights.